

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
CALIFORNIA CITRUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CCAC)
Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2005

Members Attending

Robert LoBue
Nick Hill
David Roberts
Ken Chipchase
Ron Matik
Doug Carman
James Sherwood
Etienne Rabe
Kevin Severns
Damon Corey
Brett Kirkpatrick
John Eliot

CDFA Representatives

Gary Manning
Steve Patton
Vic Tolomeo
Susan Shelton

Interested Parties

Jim Sebesta, Sunkist
Bill Martinet, Sunkist
Bob Blakely, CCM
Sam Vohrees, Kern County
Scotti Walker, Fresno County
Don Borges, TCAC
Angela Godwin, Riverside County
Jack Marks, Kern County

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m. Gary Manning called roll and a quorum was established.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 20, 2005 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Robert LoBue moved to accept the October 20, 2005 meeting minutes as submitted. Kevin Severns seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.

ITEM 3: REVENUE REPORT/FUND BALANCE

Gary Manning gave the committee copies of the Citrus Program's Summary of Crop Year Revenue. He explained that this report reflects the monthly revenue of both the Navel and Valencia Program and the Orange Crop Program. However, it does not reflect lemons and mandarins as these assessments have not yet been established. He also noted that the months are reported when CDFA receives the assessments not necessarily when the cartons are shipped. Revenues and balances as of October 31, 2005 are:

Valencia Revenue	\$ 59,009.88	
Navel Revenue	441,184.33	
Navel/Valencia Fund Balance	-2,108.00	(Includes interest pymt. of \$131)
Bank of America Fund Balance	1,422,837.00	(Interest year-to-date is \$16,884)

For the benefit of the new members, Gary explained that the Bank of America account was originally established as the Committee had expressed concerns pertaining to the State's budget issues and the possibility that reserve funds could potentially be at risk. Government Code Section 16310 states that in the event that General Fund money is exhausted, the State may borrow from these types of funds; however, money taken by the State must be returned with interest. Beyond that, a specific timeframe is not given.

ITEM 4: REVIEW OF LEGAL OPINION REGARDING LEMON AND MANDARIN MIL FEE

Pursuant to the Assembly Bill 85, the previously established Navel and Valencia Orange Advisory Committee has been renamed and expanded and is now called the California Citrus Advisory Committee (CCAC). The CDFA Legal Office stated since the committee was not abolished, it was just expanded, that a mil fee could be set for lemons and mandarins without regulation. However, a regulation would need to be written once fees were set.

Gary stated that he would work with Vic Tolomeo's office to write the regulation. CDFA will endeavor to write the regulation so that the Secretary has the ability to increase or decrease the mil assessment, within set parameters, each year.

ITEM 5: DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF MIL ASSESSMENT FOR MANDARINS

It was noted that during the October 20, 2005 meeting, the mil assessment for mandarins was established at 4 mils (\$.004) and lemons at 1 mil (\$.001). However, there was concern that 4 mils for mandarins may be too high and there was an agreement to revisit. Discussion ensued relative to the appropriate assessment rate based on production records and the services requested.

MOTION: Ron Matik moved to assess mandarins at 1.5 mils (\$.0015). Brett Kirkpatrick seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 6: SUMMARY OF COUNTY INSPECTION RESULTS

Fresno, Kern, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Clara, Tulare, and Ventura counties monthly activity reports were presented. The counties in attendance presented their individual information. The information reported included: how many premises were inspected, the number of lots and containers that were inspected and rejected, the number of maturity tests completed, county costs, etc. A handout was given to the committee members containing this information.

Actual County costs to-date are as follows:

FRESNO CO.	\$ 40,691
KERN CO.	\$ 23,857
RIVERSIDE CO.	\$ (Not Reported)
SAN BERNARDINO CO.	\$ (Not Reported)
SANTA CLARA CO.	\$ (Not Reported)
TULARE CO.	\$118,668
VENTURA CO.	\$ 658 (October Only)

ITEM 7: CONTINUATION OF MATURITY TESTING

Riverside County reported that they expect to continue maturity testing through January. Kern, Tulare, and Fresno Counties expect to continue testing through December.

MOTION: Nick Hill moved to approve maturity testing through December in Northern California Counties and through January in Southern California Counties. He also moved that counties then discontinue or cut back on testing as they decide what is appropriate. Robert LoBue seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 8: OTHER BUSINESS

The committee asked that CDFA provide them, at the next meeting, with the projected costs for mandarins if there were a freeze.

ITEM 9: NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of CCAC was set for March 29, 2005 in Bakersfield, CA. The meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the Kern County Agricultural Commissioner's office.

ITEM 10: ADJOURNMENT

As there was no other business to discuss, the Committee adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Gary Manning, Program Supervisor
Inspection Services